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the goods again.**



4TH National Truck-I

**AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS
HOSTED BY UTEZNVANZ**



EASTER 2014 MILDURA VIC



Prez's Welcome

I'd like to personally welcome each of you to the 39th Australian Van Nationals. It's an exciting time for Uteznvanz™ Inc to be hosting such a great event here in Irymple, Mildura, Victoria.

I would also like to thank the Events Committee for all the tireless hours they have put into this event to get it to where it is today.

Thank you to all the entrants that entered in advance and to all those that have assisted us in pulling the event together at such short notice. It is greatly appreciated by all involved.

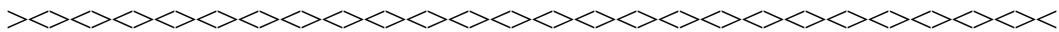
A thank you also goes out to our sponsors, in particular our major sponsors The Flag Factory, Markwell's Auto Group and Wenham Insulation.

We hope you enjoy what we have planned for you over the course of the event and I hope to meet with you all, but for now enjoy.

Stephen LePoidevin

President

UTEZNVANZ™ Inc



I have an article written, once for a magazine about SCURVY, not the disease on scurvy, which was contracted aboard ship in the early days and was cured by consuming fruit,
SCURVY that stands for the:

Society for the Complete and Unilateral Removal of Van owning Yobbo's

Now we all know some people that drive vans, that would fit this description, but most, if offered the hand of friendship will respond, I can vouch for this having spoken to many and various van owners over the years.

So during the 39th Australian Van Nationals, lets forget our differences and meet together on common ground, and leave SCURVY outside on the road with the HOONS.

Cliff Parfitt
MAJOR

Mayor's Message

I am delighted to extend a warm welcome to all participants and visitors involved in the 2014 Australian Van Nationals being held here in Mildura.

Entering its 39th year, the Australian Van Nationals returns to Mildura which hosted this classic event several times back in the 1970's. Council was delighted to hear the program included going back to some of the original locations for those still involved to share many memories and rekindle former friendships.

Not only is this an opportunity for locals to view some beautiful vehicles, it is also a chance for companion motor group displays to join with the local UTEZNVANZ™ Mildura Club and provide a spectacular Show 'n Shine. It also provides an opportunity to showcase our region to in excess of 300 people expected to attend from all over Australia.

I congratulate the organising Committee of the Mildura UTEZNVANZ™ for their untiring efforts in bringing this event back to Mildura. Their presentation to last year's Annual General Meeting in conjunction with Council's Business Events was instrumental in securing the event for our region.

Mildura Rural City hosts a number of diverse and exciting events and is pleased to be able to provide significant support including event funding and on-going facilitation. I trust the event will be successful, not only for the organisers and participants but also for the wider community.

On behalf of Mildura Rural City Council, I wish everyone involved good memories, fond fellowship and the wish to return again.

Best wishes to all involved.

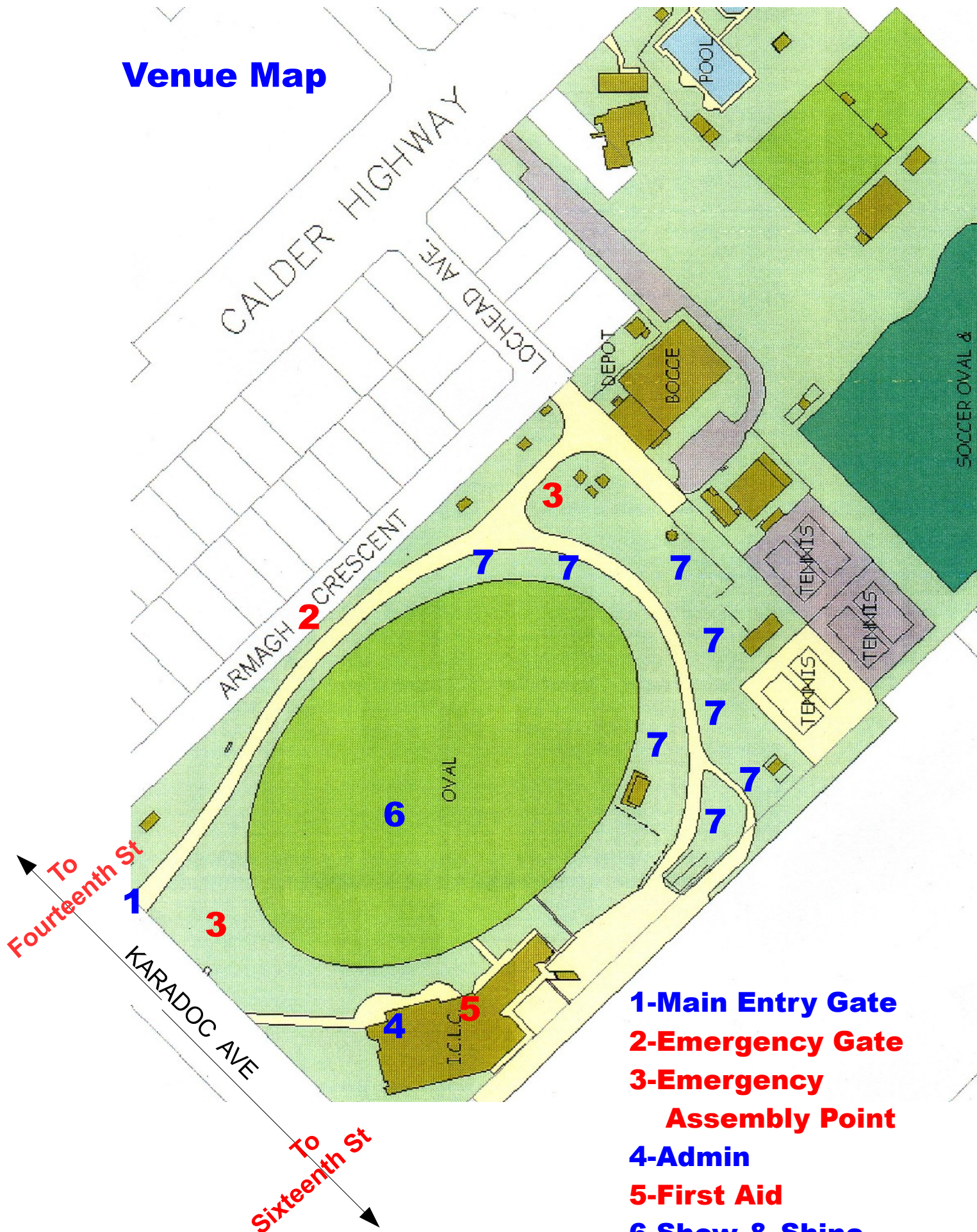
Cr Glenn Milne

Mayor

Mildura Rural City Council

[Any enquiries or emergencies do not hesitate to call club phone on 0431559636](#)

Venue Map



- 1-Main Entry Gate**
- 2-Emergency Gate**
- 3-Emergency
Assembly Point**
- 4-Admin**
- 5-First Aid**
- 6-Show & Shine**
- 7-Camping**

If Assistance Necessary Please Contact Club Phone
04 31559636

AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS HOSTED BY UTEZNVANZ



EASTER 2014 MILDURA VIC

Irymple Community Leisure Centre, Mildura

Thursday – 7.30pm on site. Official opening with Mayor

Friday – 10am Cruise to Wentworth NSW. Stop at Bakery for food then guided tour through Historic Wentworth Jail at 11.30. Cost \$4. Kidz Biz 2 – 4pm. See program for location. 4.30pm VCV AGM

Saturday – Show and Shine. Public in from 10am to 4pm.

6pm - 70's theme party with meal, vehicle light comp & games.

Sunday – Morning chance to view Mildura100 Ski race from historic Psyche Pumps which will be open. Their BBQ & entry fees help the restoration of the pumps. They only operate 5 or 6 times a year.

Kidz Biz 1 – 3pm on site. 3 – 4pm Photo Opportunity at the Rio Vista Homestead where VANRAT was photographed in the 70's.

7pm Charity Auction and Awards Presentation including supper.

Monday morning – 9am 1 hour PS Melbourne Boat Cruise \$10 head includes tea/coffee.

Food, coffee and ice-cream vans on-site all event.

Full details/maps - see entrants program in goodie pack.

PROUDLY HOSTED BY

and
supporting

CHANCES FOR CHILDREN



www.uteznvanz.com.au
Find us on FACEBOOK!



chances dare to dream

'78 & '79, 3rd and 4th National Truck Ins

Phil Edmonds

Hi, I am a member of the Canberra Van club, Steel City Van Club - Newcastle and Vans on the Run – Geelong. Still great friends with all the Geelong crew including Ken Dawson (Foxy Lady - HG Van).

I have scanned a lot of slides of the Van scene for Steve Abbott (Van Rat) and I think he then put them on facebook, so you have already seen them. I don't do facebook.... (*I thought they would be good to have in here, Ed.)

Steve was also at Mildura with Van Rat (yellow HJ with a 454 Chev) and is where I actually met him, we are still friends to this day.



Tug of War
between Gary Pearce
(Jade 350 chev) and
Steve Abbot
(VanRat 454 Chev)

Anyway here's a couple of photos of stickers on my old esky (sitting unused in the shed).





We camped on an oval not far from central Mildura, from memory it was maybe a Kilometre out (on the left) heading out towards the Calder Hwy roundabout. (The Mildura Ovals & Showgrounds).



My Yellow Sandman (bought new 14/6/77 for \$7,000)



Foxy Lady a Blue HG

EMERGENCY PLAN
FOR
39TH AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS EVENT
APRIL 15TH - 22ND inclusive
IRYMPLE COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE AND
HENSILWOOD RESERVE

FIRST AID

- Emergency vehicle designated access for entire event is 1st gate in Armagh Crescent with the exception of emergency being within the buildings themselves when emergency vehicles will be directed straight to site.
 - The First Aid area is located in the Lower Function Centre or ask anyone with Volunteer identification.
 - First Aid area is equipped with easy chair, first aid box and number of on duty first aid personnel and numbers/location of local Hospital, Doctors and Chemists.
 - Qualified First Aid personnel who have volunteered their services will operate on a 24/7 roster basis throughout the event. Call club phone on 0431 559 636 current duty person and the number printed in the entrants programs.
 - Duty first aid personnel will have a hand held radio so other on duty attendants can be simultaneously called to assist immediately if necessary.

FIRE

- Emergency vehicle designated access for entire event is 1st gate in Armagh Crescent with the exception of emergency being within the buildings themselves when emergency vehicles will be directed straight to site.

DESIGNATED EMERGENCY MEETING POINTS ARE

on the grassed area between the Oval and Karadoc Avenue beside the double gate entrance or in the park camping area between the BBQ and the rear perimeter fence.

These meeting points are indicated on the map in your entrants program. Please familiarise yourself with these points on arrival.

ALERTING PROCEEDURE

- PA announcements will be made unless the emergency renders this unusable or inaccessible. In the event of this on duty personnel will have specific areas to check, warn/alert and assist evacuation according to emergency type and if it is safe to do so. **If asked to move at any stage please obey instructions immediately.**
- Entrants are asked if no volunteer personnel are present to advise any emergency immediately to 000 if severe using vehicle access instructions detailed above. Then or if not severe immediately call the club officials on 0431 559 636.
- Copies of event name register will be at both meeting points so people can be accounted for. Please look for the person with the list to have your name checked off and then DO NOT leave that point until advised it is clear for you to do so.

FIRE PROTECTION POINTS

- Fire extinguishers are on the official event vehicle so call duty personnel number
- Additional extinguishers are located by the BBQ in the park area and in the Admin area located in the Lower Function Centre.
- For hose reels etc see map in your program for locations.

Our Safety Officers will be

Steve LePoidevin – Phone - **0428 238 196** and
Brenton Wenham – Phone - **0408 596 169.**

Fire Marshall will be Brenton Wenham – 0408 596 169.

Event Steward – Lynelle Wenham – **0427 008 091**

Club Phone for on duty personnel – 0431 559 636

'Lobbitt' Cliff Parfitt

This is the story of 'Lobbitt', the vanning game developed out of making and meeting new friends, and yes, it is another drinking game, but let's not believe that vanners have substituted the Van for the Can, it's only that we are a happy group who enjoy the fruits of owning a van.

Back to Lobbitt.....

We had travelled to Burroughs Huts, a camp ground just south of Halls Gap in the Grampians, where the first truly interstate group of vanners had met for the Easter weekend some years earlier. It was cold and a bit damp and as we do, a fire was lit. The camp chairs and the esky s came out and the party atmosphere commenced. As the afternoon became evening, another group of people arrived to use the camping grounds, they piled out of their cars, set up their tents and then wandered over to say "Good Day."

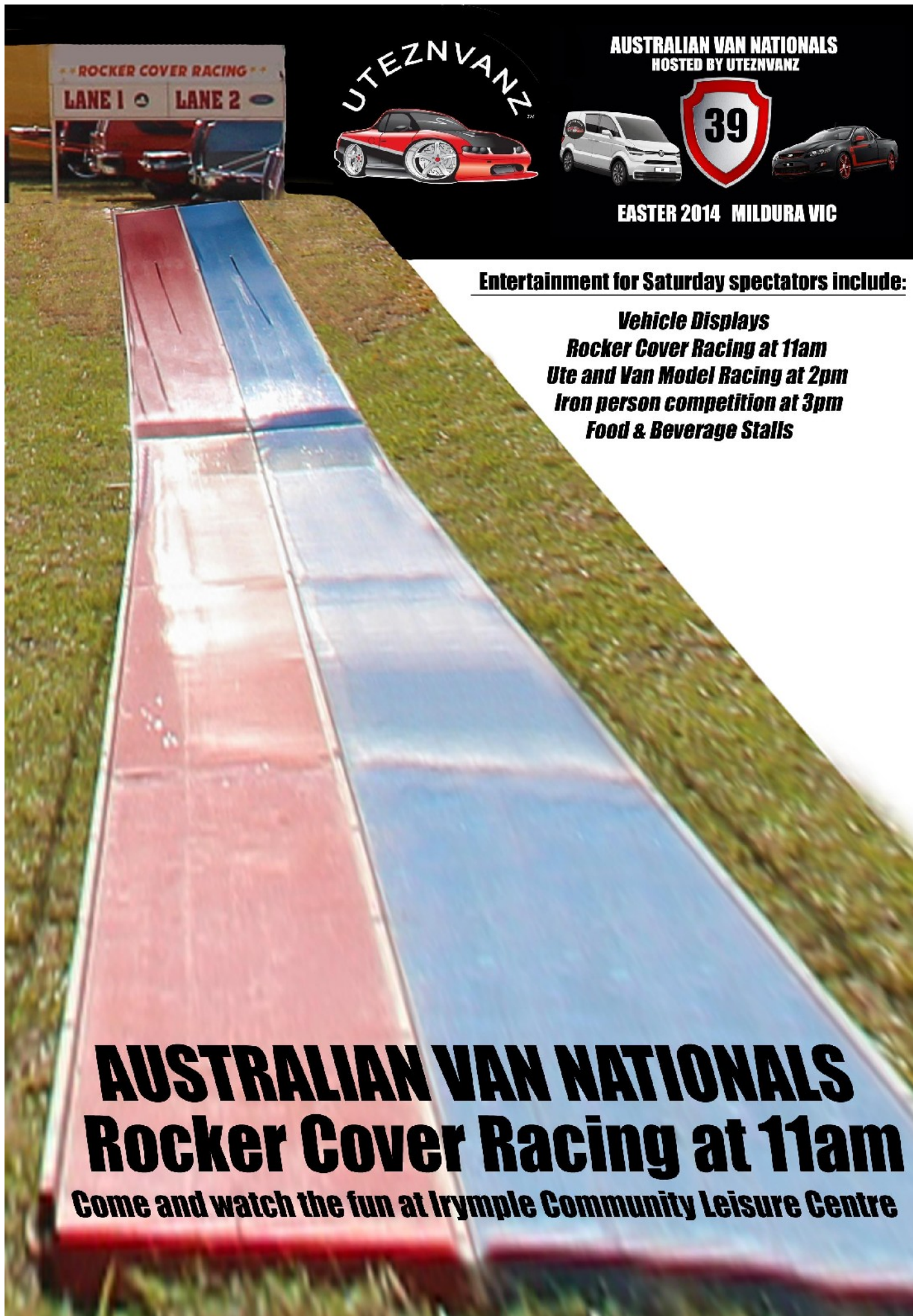
So the scene is set.....

During the talking, drinking and laughing; friendships were formed and it was during this time that someone removed the small rubber bung, from the end of the arm, on their chair and suggested that if they could throw or lob the little rubber bung over the fire and into the glass opposite, then the owner of the drink would scull the contents.

After several misses, the game started to fade, only to be started up again with regained enthusiasm when it was suggested that if the rubber bung went in the glass then the owner would scull the contents as before; but if they could only hit the glass then the owner would have to take a good swig or drink out of the glass.

This then became the rules, with the intention of lobbing the rubber bung or "Lobbitt" as it became known across the fire, aimed at the opponents glass, where after much drinking and merriment everyone retired happy, content and in many cases, full.

What a night and what a hang over!!



UTEZNVANZ™



AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS
HOSTED BY UTEZNVANZ



EASTER 2014 MILDURA VIC

Entertainment for Saturday spectators include:

Vehicle Displays

Rocker Cover Racing at 11am

Ute and Van Model Racing at 2pm

Iron person competition at 3pm

Food & Beverage Stalls

AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS Rocker Cover Racing at 11am

Come and watch the fun at Irymple Community Leisure Centre

VAN FISHING

Lynelle Wenham

In the early 80's, I had a great friend living in Kangaroo Island, South Australia. Her brother had a panel van which was the 'taxi' really and often piled with friends heading out somewhere.

One night at a beach party, another friend had a boat and fishing net. It was not working with people on shore trying to drag the land end of the net and everyone was ending up in the water and the fish getting away. A bright spark got the idea of tying the end on shore, to the van.

With the boat moving through the water and the van on the sand it worked a charm and we soon had a net full of fish. These were cooked on the camp fire with potatoes roasted in foil.

It was a feast still remembered.



39th Australian Van Nationals

SOUND COMP VOTING FORM
choose the entrant you like best
& put their entrant number in the
box below and place in the the
judging box

ENTRANT NUMER HERE

**Don't forget to look for
your Sound Off voting
form in the Goodie Bag,
as you are all
requested to
participate in judging
the Sound Off Comp. I
hope you have cleaned
your ears out & if
not.....
the Sound Off will!**

Mildura '78/'79



UTES 'n' VANS

on show



in the Early Days!

MENACE – The Basic Story

Daz Launer

HIGHWAY MENACE, reborn 1997 FORD TRANSIT VAN LWB MID ROOF.

The van was bought as a white commercial, for business use- mobile t-shirt sales at car shows. I didn't want to look like all other traders and wanted to fit into the car show scene. My life's motto is "Dare to be different," hence the marbleized paint. The interior was originally fitted out for the business with a grey interior with storage and workspace. I was forced into retirement due to severe illness 6 months after purchase of the vehicle.

I was a vanner in the late 70's and 80's and got the bug back badly. As I'm on a pension finances are quite strained, hence several subtle changes to the interior until the van is as you see it now.

Apart from a custom paint job of House of Kolor marbleized in Kandy apple red and Kandy apple cobalt blue the vans exterior is completed by the addition of twin 3" laker style side pipes (working), under body LED bars & strobes, and rides on Dragway custom billets (16 x 7 front and 16 x 8 rear) fitted with Kumho 857 tyres to comply with legal load ratings. In its life the van has traveled 750,000 km partly as a work vehicle, mostly as a show Van. Traveling any where from South Australia to Queensland.

The interior is not what you would expect to see in a Transit van either. The custom interior features fully pimped out night club theme complete with full audio visual system including 10 screens, 2 dvd players, sub woofers, and effects lighting and a fully usable STRIPPERS POLE.

The van is an everyday driver, we use it for camping, fishing, car runs, car shows, shopping, moving furniture, taking the families large dog for drives. This vehicle has always traveled under its own steam and lives its entire life outdoors and has never been garaged. Unfortunately it has even been side swipped (and been repaired since) & Financially written off once. My motto in life is "Dare to be different." I believe if you don't take it out & use it you might as well lose it.

PS: It's still changing all the time.

2012 Perth Van Nats Road Trip

James Ellis

The best time I have had regarding a Van Nats, is almost, always, the road trip to the event. But, the best by far was the trip to WA.

A six day trip with a group of vanners I was friends with, but by the end (of the trip) became very good friends. The sights, we saw, the great little towns we went through and seeing the 'The Bight' at both ends was just amazing.

The sunsets at Fraser's Range at the WA end of the Nullabor were the best I have ever seen. Wave rock was awesome and visiting Esperance was a highlight and would be an awesome place for a future Van Nats.

The bra and undie tree, the knife and fork tree, the shoe tree and the flag tree were some of the fun sights on the long trip. The biggest reward was arriving in Pinjara to see the awesome WA Vans, seeing our old vanner friends and meeting new friends, that's what vanning is all about!



Vanners at The Great Australian Bight

What are you in for!!!!

Thursday 7.30pm

Open on site with local Mayor attending.

Friday 10am

Cruise to Wentworth departing from venue please follow the instructions near the maps. Meet in the Fishers Carpark where a couple of nearby shops will be open for purchases.

11.15am continue on to Old Wentworth Jail for tour through.

Afterwards free time

and you are welcome to stay and enjoy Wentworth making your way back to the venue when you choose.



There is a museum in Wentworth or you may like to have a look at the junction of the mighty Murray and Darling Rivers.



4.30pm on site Van Council Of Victoria AGM. If you have fences or marquee over your vehicle on Saturday please speak to an official about placement today.

Saturday 7am

Vehicles may start to move onto the oval. You will be placed by Marshalls. If clubs wish to be together on the oval please assemble away from the entrance and approach together. No trailers are allowed on the oval. All vehicles must be in place by 9am.

Public enters at 10am and judging begins. After 4pm you are welcome to remove your vehicle. If you are a full entrant please remain on the oval if you intend to be judged in the vehicle light or 70's style competitions judged during the party to follow.

6pm doors will open to the stadium. The party begins! BYO alcohol. First course served around 6.30pm. Please wait for instructions. You are in for a night of fun and games! We are looking forward to seeing your 70's outfits and hope you bring lots of energy!!!!

Trophies for costumes and games will be up for grabs as well as the vehicle ones.

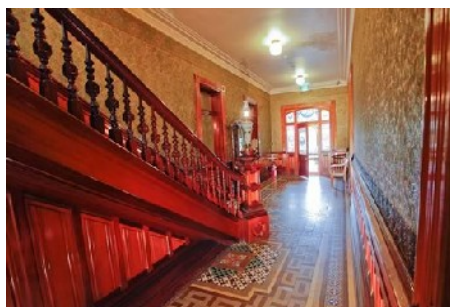
Sunday Morning.

Early morning to early afternoon you are welcome to spend some time at our Mildura100 view point. Directions are near the maps. The fastest boats will be first (approx 8am usually) and will return again from about lunch time.

The Historic Psyche Pumps will be operating and open for a small fee for you to have a look. The Pump restoration team will be cooking a BBQ. Funds raised help restore and maintain the pumps and so they appreciate all support.



3pm all interested in being a part of the Exclusive and special photo shoot please follow directions printed in the map section. Marshalls will direct you once you get in the vicinity of the shoot.



The Rio Vista Homestead does not receive much restoration funding and although it is free to take a tour every small contribution to their donation box is greatly appreciated. Please sign the visitors book. They do receive a small amount of funding based on the volume of names in the book.

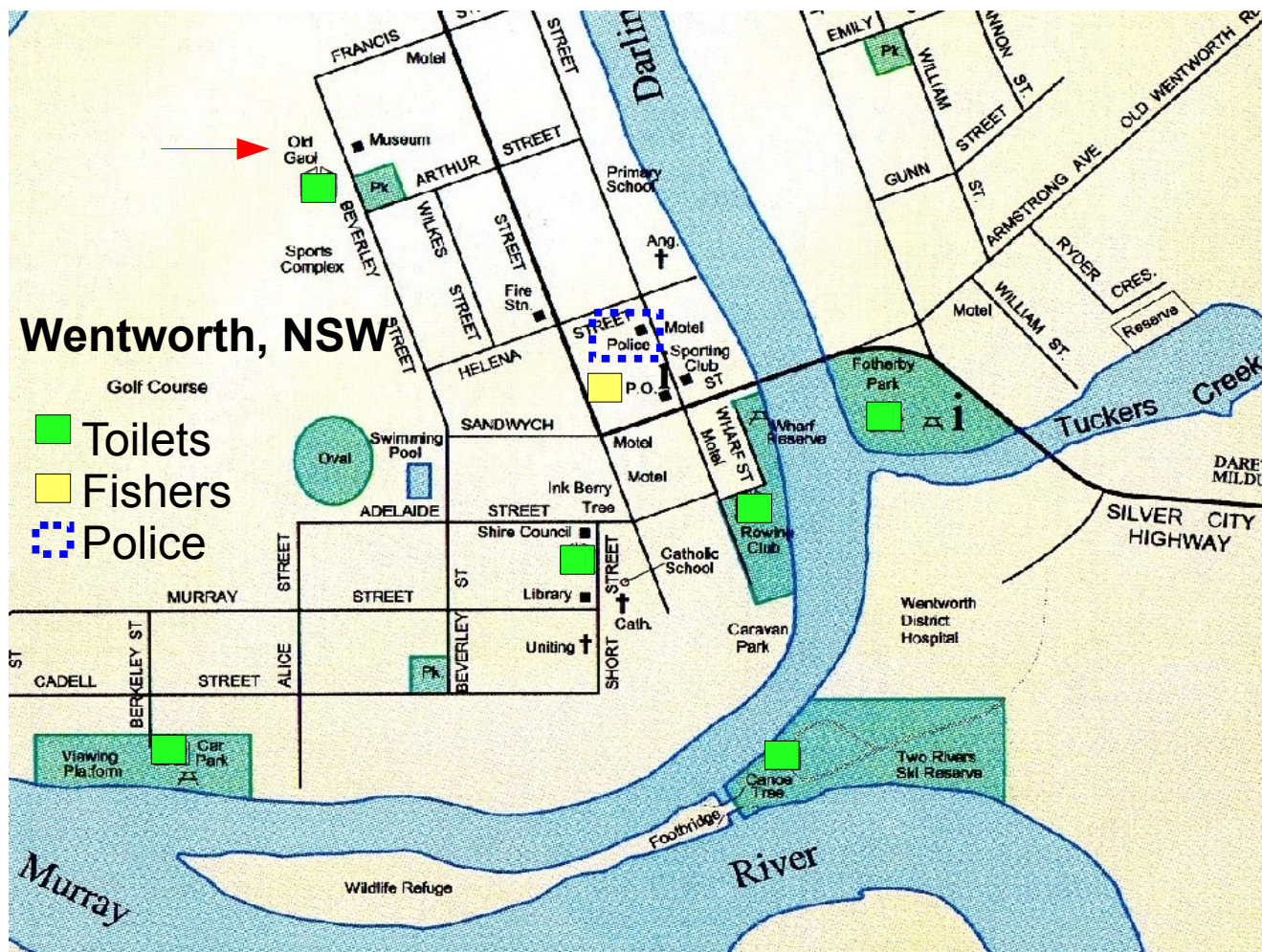
7pm - Charity Auction will commence in the Stadium and will be followed by the awards presentation. Supper will be provided at the end.

Monday Morning.

9am Paddle Steamer Melbourne Cruise departs from the wharf. See instructions by maps. Boarding can begin from 8.40am and the cruise will last an hour. Tea/coffee supplied on the boat. It is the last official part of the weekend. Please register your interest in the cruise at admin by Sunday afternoon as seating is limited to approximately 200 persons.



We hope you enjoy your time in Mildura, attending the 39th Australian Van Nationals!



FRIDAY WENTWORTH CRUISE DIRECTIONS

- * Exit venue and turn left. Proceed to 16th Street (first major intersection)
- * Turn right and proceed to stop sign at Benetook Avenue.
- * Turn left and proceed to roundabout at 17th Street
- * Turn right and proceed to major intersection at Deakin Avenue. This is the Adelaide Highway.
- * Turn left and proceed out of town, past airport several kilometres (approx 8 k's). Just prior to entering the speed restriction zone of Merbein South turn right into River Avenue
- * Proceed several kilometres to first major intersection and veer left towards Merbein and Wentworth.
- * Follow signs to Wentworth which will lead you straight through Merbein, Several kilometres later you will have to cross the Abbotsford bridge. This is a single lane bridge controlled by traffic lights alternating traffic. Once across this bridge you are now in New South Wales.
- * Proceed into Wentworth and turn right into Adams Street (Broken Hill Road). Turn into the Fishers Carpark immediately on your right and park.
- * The bakery across the road and cafe will be open for food and drink purchases.
 - We will leave from here and proceed to the Old Wentworth Jail as directed. Food is allowed in the Jail but not available there. Some drinks will be on sale there.

SATURDAY TIMETABLE

7.00am

Vehicles can move on site. All to be in position by 9am

10am

Gates open to public and judging begins. Remember to place your own votes for the entrants' choice and best sound trophies.

11am

Rocker Cover Racing

11.30 to 12 noon

Rumour has it that Easter Bunny could be around. Kids should keep their eyes peeled. Maybe calling for him will help him decide to visit us!!!! :

1pm

Wheel Changing Championship

2pm

Ute and Van Model Racing hosted by Sundowners Van club and we thank them very much.

3pm

Iron Person Competition – see separate instructions and diagram in program for details.

4pm

Gates close to public and vehicles may move.

6pm till late!!!!

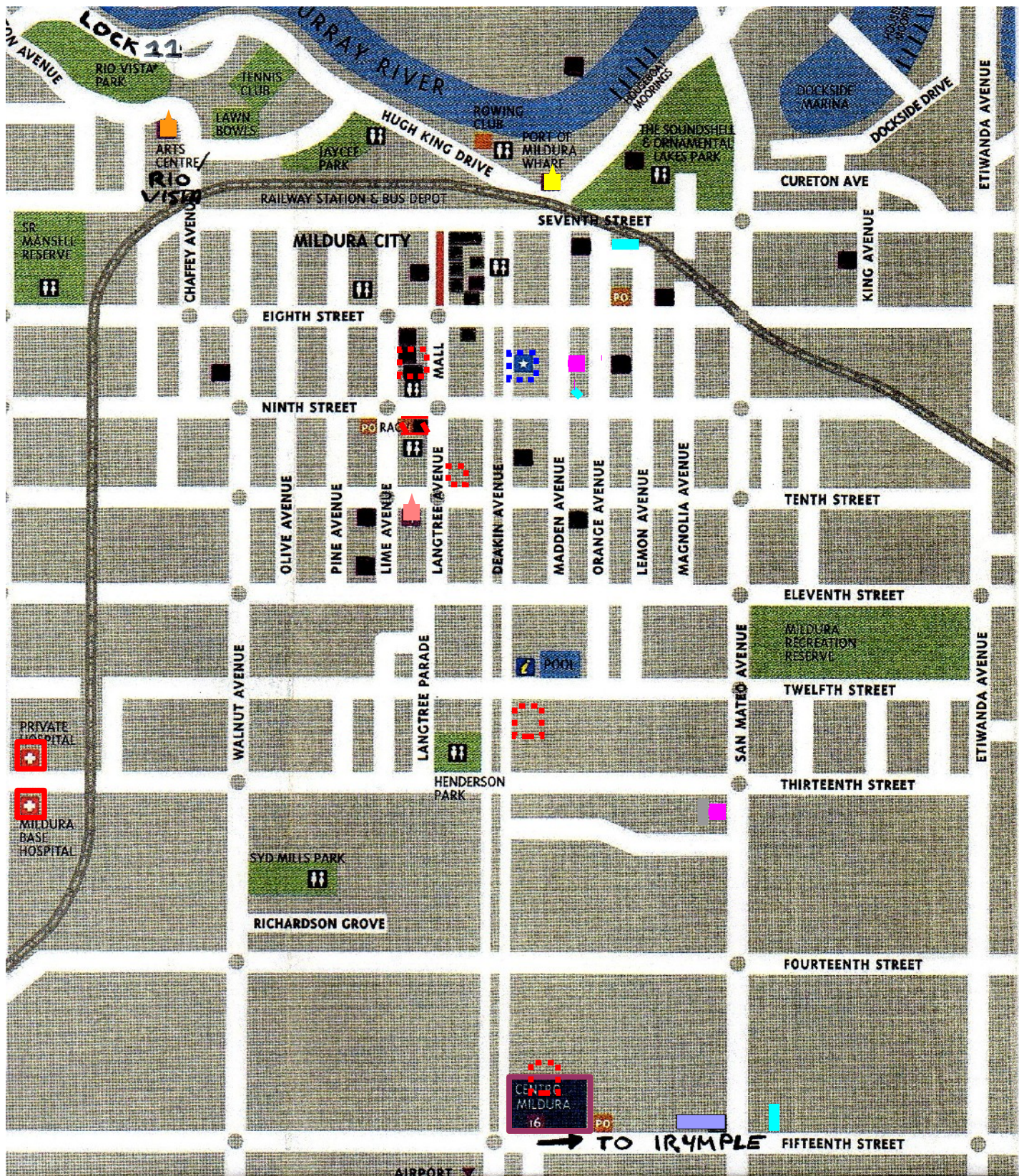
PARTY PARTY PARTY!!!




Costumes! Games! Food! Vehicle Light Comp! Music! Great Company! Special Opportunities to purchase surprises!
BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING!!!!!!

BYO Drinks including softdrink and alcohol.

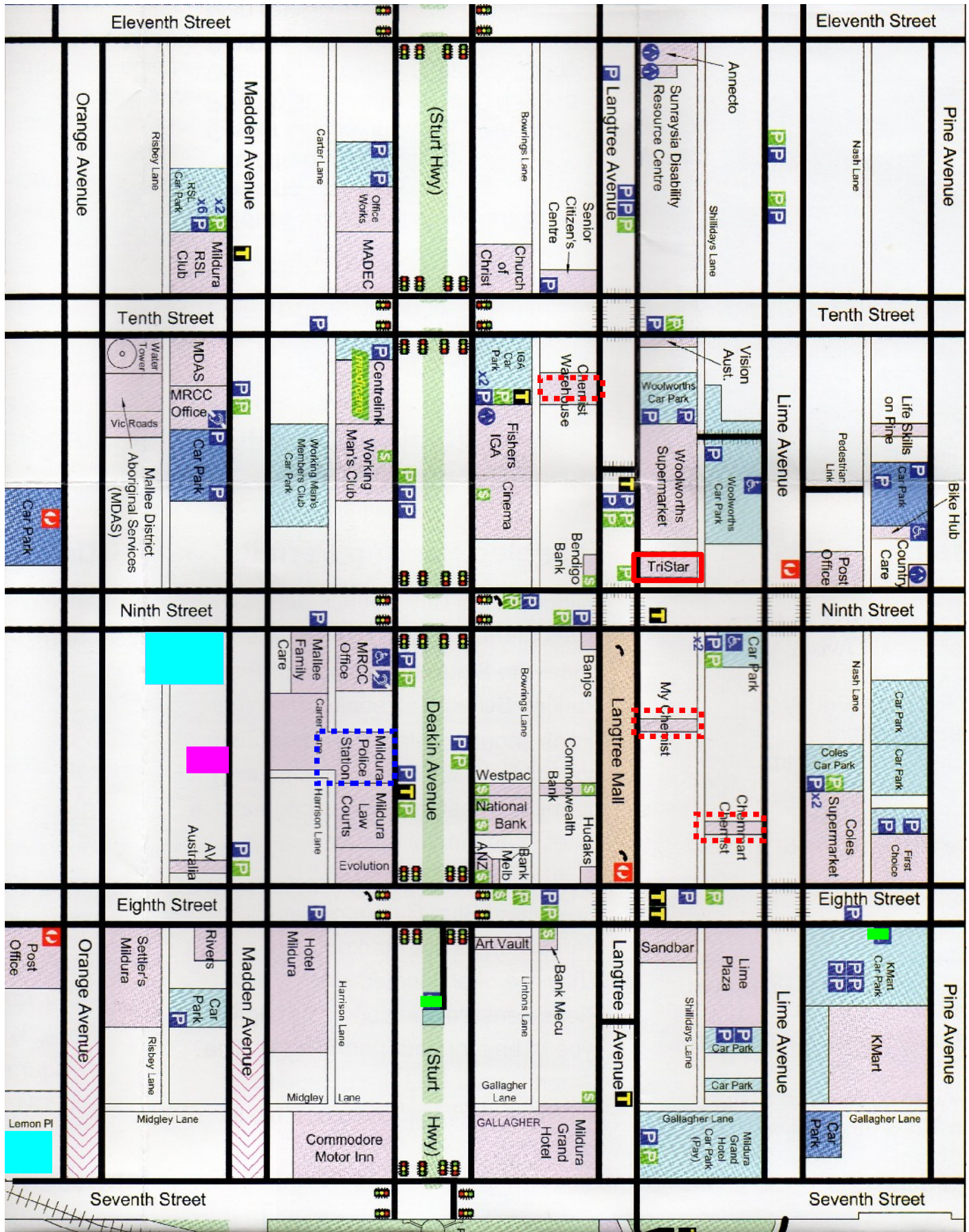


Map of Mildura



- | | |
|---|---|
|  Car wash |  Rio Vista/Arts Centre |
|  Laundry Mat |  Mildura Wharf (P.S Melbourne) |
|  Medical |  The Chocolate Factory |
|  Chemist |  Mildura Gateway Tavern |
|  Police |  Mildura Central, Shopping Complex |

Map of Mildura Town Center



Medical

Tristar Medical Clinic
50231200



Chemist



Police



Car wash



Toilets



Laundromat

SUNDAY MORNING BOAT RACE VIEWING

- * Exit venue and turn right. Proceed through traffic lights to first major intersection (14th Street)
- * Turn right and proceed several kilometres to the intersection of Cureton Avenue.
- * Turn left and not far down turn right into the dirt track leading to the river and Psyche Pumps. There is a sign post on the corner direction to the pumps.
- * When you see the pumps head to the left of them to the oval area. We have permission to place vehicles on the oval itself.
 - The other side of the oval is the river and a prime location to view the Mildura 100 Ski race.

RACE INFO

This is one of Australia's most famous River races!

Boats come from all parts of Australia and often from overseas to participate. It is 100k's long being 50 k's up the river where all the boats stop and wait. When all boats are there they proceed back again for the second 50 km stretch. The view point we have is one of the fastest sections of the race and boats could be travelling at speeds in excess of 100 MILE an hour with two skiers on behind.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PHOTOSHOOT

Approximately 3pm if all those interested could make their way into Mildura and proceed to the intersection of 7th Street and Madden Avenue.

Once there please turn towards the river and proceed down the road under the rail way bridge. Immediately turn left and proceed along the river front.

Keep to the right of the tennis courts and continue along the river side past the lock and up the steep hill where it will come out onto Cureton Avenue.

Turn left here. Proceed slowly looking for the event Marshalls directions. Some will be directed to one of two available car parks to await placement and others will be directed straight into the lawn photo shoot area.

From the car parks; Marshalls will direct you when you are required to

enter the photo shoot area.

Speed limit of 5km per hour applies in the photo shoot area and as it is an extreme privilege to be allowed to access this then we need to be extremely careful of the lawn area. No sharp turns or senseless behaviour will be tolerated. All repair costs will be directed to the offender.

MONDAY MORNING BOAT CRUISE

The boat will depart from the wharf area on the right as you pass under the rail bridge from yesterdays photo shoot directions.

Best access from the venue would be to

- * Exit venue and turn right.
- * Proceed through traffic lights, straight through the intersection at 14th Street and proceed to the next stop sign (11th street)
- * Turn left and follow into town until you come to a major roundabout with a train line through the centre. (Benetook Avenue)
- * Turn right here and follow road around the sweeping bend, through a set of traffic lights and a large roundabout (to the right you will see the bridge to New South Wales as you proceed through this roundabout.
- * Continue over train line and the next right hand turn will be the road to access the river going under the rail bridge.
- * **You will see the wharf car park from here and just use any access to the car park and park.**



**Time changes many
things but the
laughter, fun and
friendship still
remains!!!**



Model Ute & Van Racing

Hosted by Sundowners Van Club
at The 39th Australian Van Nationals Mildura 2014

\$2

Saturday 2PM

1 Ute race & 2 Van races for adults and children

Eligible Manufacturers:



**RACE
HOSTS**



**UTES &
VANS
ONLY**

Cars must not exceed more than 1.5 inches wide

Suit Up Ben Jolley

I have a story that just happened Friday night.....

It was high school formal night in Naracoorte, so with all the old cars in town, my old man thought it would be a good night to go for a cruise in his XY van and turn some heads.

Mum and dad were driving up past the local bmx track when the van suddenly stalled.

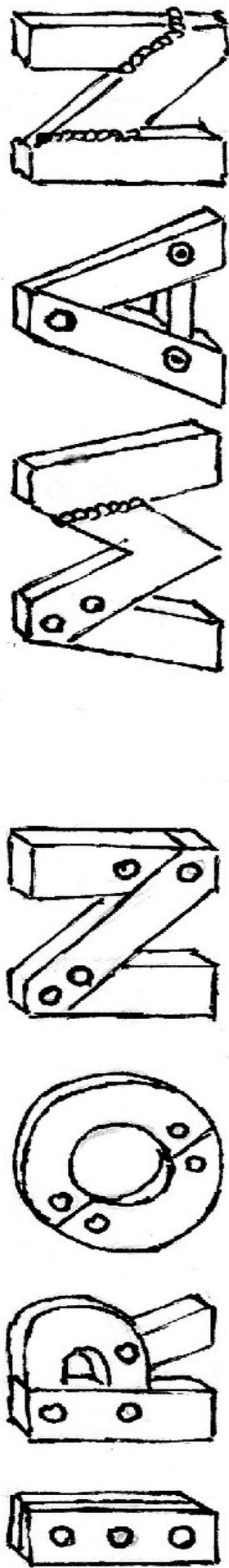
My mate and I were chauffeuring kids to the formal in my car and just as I was heading past a local workshop I got a phone call from mum, only to hear her yell 'COME TO THE BMX TRACK THE F*@KING VAN IS ON FIRE!!' So I grabbed a fire extinguisher from the workshop and quickly made my way to the track.

After breaking several traffic offences to get there in a hurry, we pulled up, jumped out of my car and legged it across the road to the van. Only to find dad's heart rate at around 3 million bpm and the van perfectly fine....

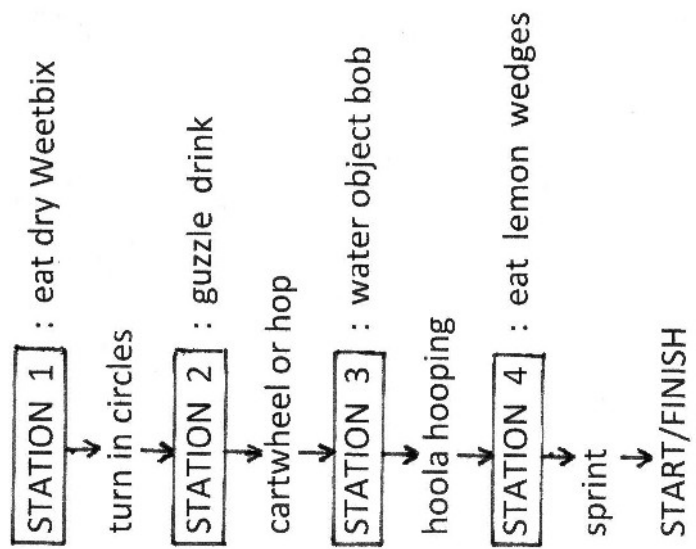
So here I am wearing formal suit, laying in the engine bay on the side of a main road. My mate wearing exactly the same suit, holding a watering can and aiming a fire extinguisher at me from a safe distance.

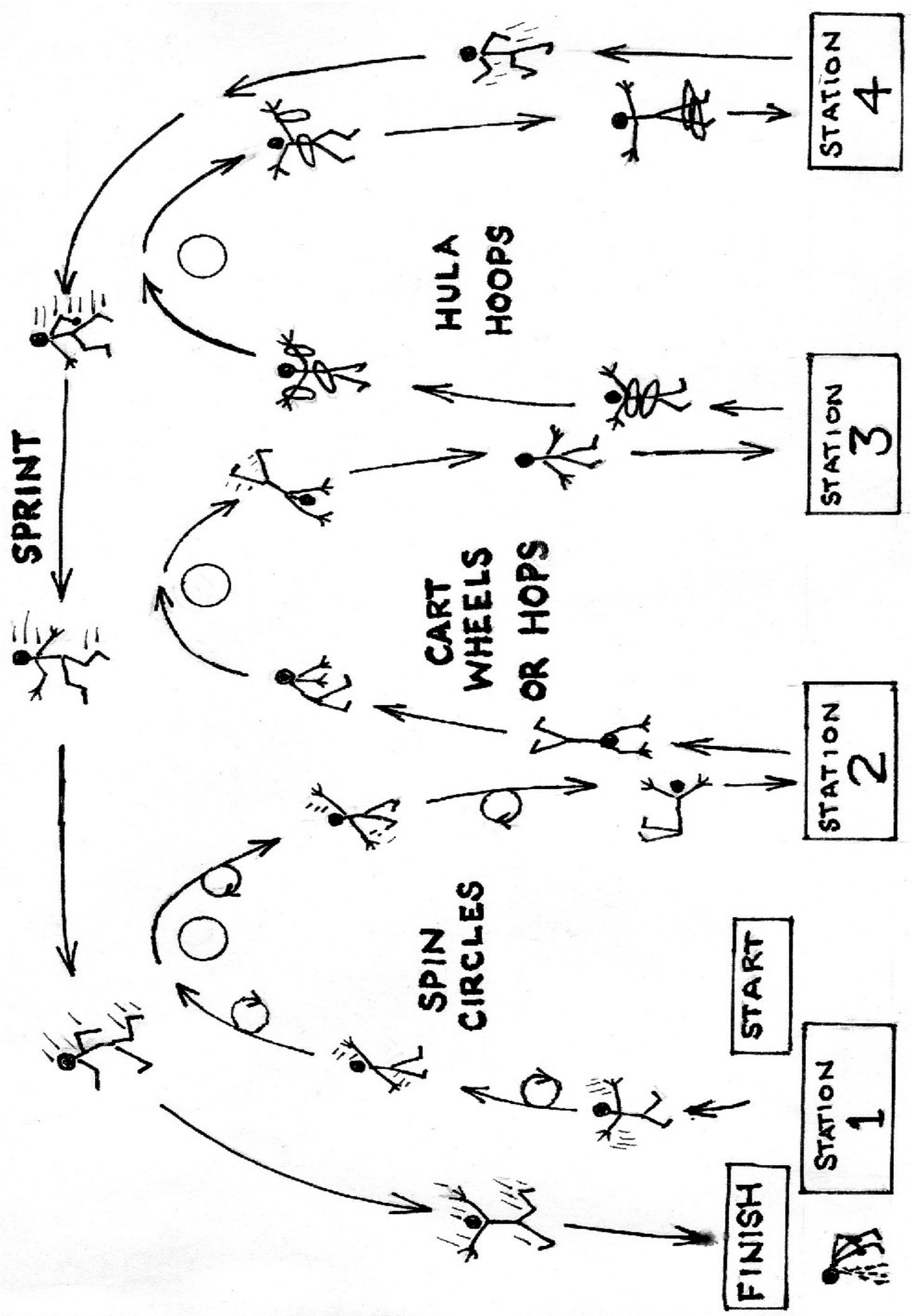
Although no one stopped to help, at least the passing traffic were kind enough to slow down and look at us like we each had three heads.

Turns out it was just a wire that shorted out under the dash and filled the cab with smoke. Scared the crap out of the rents but at least the van was okay.....



COMPETITION





Convoy

James Ellis

Van Convoys are always a blast.

Whether it is a club event or a Van Nats cruise that is organized. Just looking back in your mirror or looking forward is the worlds best sight.

Vans, vans, vans.

Going through towns and seeing the people stop and watch is a magic moment. To me it is often the highlight of a Van Nats.

Vans are a unique vehicle and they usually reflect a persons personality. When all the vans are cruising together there is no better sight.

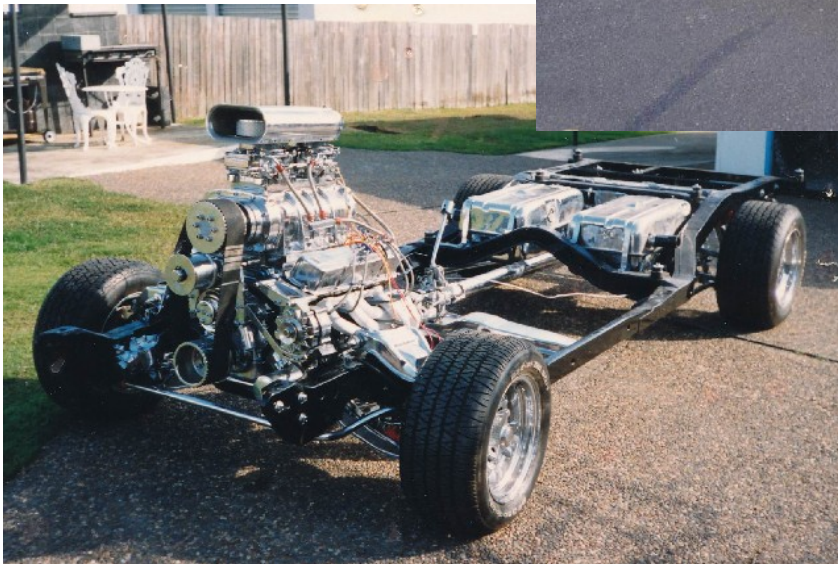


Street Legal

Street Legal was owned and built by Steve Marsh. He was very particular, as you can see by his chassis.



I preferred it before he put the trans-am front on it but fibreglass fronts were all the rage then. I never liked them.



Steve was in our club in Newcastle and I watched this van slowly come to reality. I think it now resides in SE Melbourne but not too sure, (Steve Abbott would possibly know).

Pictures and words courteous Phil Edmonds

AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS HOSTED BY UTEZNVANZ



EASTER 2014 MILDURA VIC

**Uteznvanz event committee would like to
thank very much our awesome sponsors of
this event.**

**Without the support from you all, this event
could and would never have happened.
From the financial sponsorship to the in kind
donations and physical labour put forward it
has been possible to create this memorable
event celebrating the return of the Australian
Van Nationals to its birth place of 39 years
ago.**

We appreciate all your support and hope others will recognise this invaluable part of your involvement in our event. Thanks again.

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VANRAT
Steve Abbott



**Van Council
of Victoria**



Call Pam Sell 0428 570 834



50237576

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A.V TROPHIES

Van Nationals, Mildura, Victoria



Mildura Rural City Council



MILDURA, VICTORIA



James
Ellis

Mildura Plaza Motor Inn

Jaydee Ground care



Sunnyland Press

Street Printz

Autobarn Mildura

Leo Club

Mayday Automotives

Royal Precision Lubricants

Bawdens
Farm

Merbein Progressive Group

James Auto Wreckers

Thanks to Peter Crisp MP
For your support with our
event printing
requirements...
We appreciate it very much.



Van Rat

I have very fond memories of the Mildura Van Ins of the late 70s early 80s, mostly of the layout of the Showgrounds and the masses of vans and people.

The whole experience was very well planned with cruises down the main street, Drive-in nights, controlled drinking, the Van Pull and the Show.

The days were very hot and trying to walk across the boiling sand at the beach (Apex) for a swim was well remembered. Along with sitting in the flooded cricket pitch under a big tree for relief. When the sun came up in the morning people were pouring themselves out of their tents & vans as the temperature rose to 42+ degrees.

Everybody got on and just walking around at night amongst the many vans & wagons was met with laughter and new friendships that still last today.

My biggest memory was the Van Pull and the first time that I entered and won it was when my van was only a 6 cylinder and the best thing was that it was against a V8 Ford van. The second time was when I came back the following year with a 454 fitted and won against my friend Gary Pierce in Jade which had a 350 Chev and it went on for some time and lots of smoke.

I am really thrilled to know that there are still some great people in Mildura that are bringing this event back to Marvellous Mildura and I wish them all the best.

Steve Abbott



2nd NATIONAL
DRIVE-IN NIGHT
Sat 27th September
Five States - 15 Venues
How many VANS ???



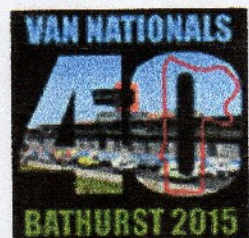
QLD - Yatala, Ayr, Charters Towers,
Ipswich, Jericho, Mareeba
VIC - Dandenong, Coburg, Dromana
WA - Kingsley, Busselton, Dongara
NSW - Blacktown, Heddon Greta
SA - Gepps Cross

ALL VAN MAKES & MODELS WELCOMED

For latest updates from each state, go to
www.BathurstVanNationals.com



An event to promote the proposed
40th Australian Van Nationals - Bathurst, 2015
See you at the Drive-in - half way to the 40th Van Nats



April 2014

Drive-In

April 2015

VAN NATIONALS



BATHURST 2015

**40th Australian Van Nationals-
Bathurst Easter 2015**

WEB

<http://www.BathurstVanNationals.com>

EMAIL:

info@BathurstVanNationals.com

TWITTER: @BathurstVan

SMS & Payments via Banking Apps :
0434 350 407



Hidden Floor Eskies!!!

Did your Ford Van have one?

Information shared by Roly Hawson.

Back in the day I worked in the industry. Ford vans had the fuel tank on the passenger's side of the diff and a gap on the driver's side.

We used to take up the floor piece from the cab to the wheel arch and hinge it at the cab. Then drill finger holes near the wheels so it could be lifted.

At the time you could buy two pressure pack cans of stuff that when sprayed together made foam. We used to use them in the gap to make terrific eskies that took a lot of cans!

Best thing was once you had a covering on it no one knew it was there! Plus the bonus! It was in reach of the passenger when you were travelling!!! ☺

Thanks Roly.

Old Holden Vanners!

Did you ever buy a Sin Bin Pack?

At a display a man was sharing information from when he worked at Holden back in the day. He was going to email some information but it has not arrived. So this is from memory of what was shared...

You could buy a Sin Bin Pack back then!

It even had an order part number so was legit. The pack contained a mattress and curtains for the back with some accessories for the cab and he thought also for under the bonnet.

A search on the net has not yielded more information but if anyone out there knows of these and exactly what they contained. Or awesomely had some pics or a flyer we would appreciate the information and will run it in a future edition of Tailgate – our club mag.

FACT OR FICTION?????

Can you help us find out? ☺



Uteznvanz Revised Trophy & Sponsor List

39TH AUSTRALIAN VAN NATIONALS – Easter 2014.

VAN CATEGORIES

- National 1 – 10 - Proudly Sponsored By - **Flag Factory – The Flag Experts**
Best Big Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Majestic Vanners**
Best medium Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Majestic Vanners**
Best small Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Majestic Vanners**
Best Millennium Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Van Council of Victoria**
Best Interior Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Van Council of Victoria**
Best Exterior Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **Van Council of Victoria**
Best Van drive train – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **VANRAT – Steve Abbott**
Best Van engine bay – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **VANRAT – Steve Abbott**
Best Engineered Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By – **VANRAT – Steve Abbott**
Best paint Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By - **DRAC**
Best Murals Van – 1st and runner up - Proudly Sponsored By - **DRAC**
Best Graphics Van – 1st and runner up – Proudly Sponsored By - **SKIDROW – Escort Van**
Best Van display – Proudly Sponsored By - **Panther Van Club - WA**
Grot and no Shine Van – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frits the Plumber**
Best local Van – 1st and runner up – Proudly Sponsored By - **SKIDROW – Escort Van**
Best daily driver Van – 1st and runner up – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frosty Boy – Pam Sell**
Best work/trade Van – 1st and runner up – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mallee Burgers**
Highest Impact Van - Proudly Sponsored By - **Sunstate Panel Van Club - Q**
Best most original Van – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frits the Plumber**
Longest distance travelled with a Van – Proudly Sponsored By - **James Ellis**
Longest distance travelled without a Van – Proudly Sponsored By - **James Ellis**
Best lit Van - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Entrants Choice Van – Proudly Sponsored By - **A V Trophies**

UTE CATEGORIES

- National 1 – 10 – Proudly Sponsored By - **Wenham Insulation**
Best Interior Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frosty Boy – Pam Sell**
Best Exterior Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frosty Boy – Pam Sell**
Best Ute engine bay – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mallee Burgers**
Best vintage/classic Ute - 1st and runner up – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mallee Burgers**
Best paint Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Party Hire**
Best Murals Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Party Hire**
Best Graphics Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Party Hire**
Best Ute display – Proudly Sponsored By - **Sunnyland Press**
Longest distance travelled Ute – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Plaza Motor Inn**
Best daily driver Ute – 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **A V Trophies**
Best work/trade Ute– 1st place only – Proudly Sponsored By - **JayDee Groundcare**
Best lit Ute - Proudly Sponsored By – **Uteznvanz**

WAGON CATEGORIES

National 1 – 5 – Proudly Sponsored By - **Markwells Auto Group**
Best display Wagon – Proudly Sponsored By - **Markwells Auto Group**
Longest distance travelled Wagon – Proudly Sponsored By - **Markwells Auto Group**
Best daily driver Wagon – 1st & runner up – Proudly Sponsored By – Mark wells Auto Group
Best lit Wagon – Proudly Sponsored By - Mark wells **Auto Group**

OTHER CATEGORIES / GENERAL

Best Muscle Car – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Party Hire**
Best 4WD – Proudly Sponsored By - **Mildura Party Hire**
Best hot rod – Proudly Sponsored By - **Panther Van Club - WA**
Best Drag Vehicle – Proudly Sponsored By - **James Ellis**
Best Street Machine – Proudly Sponsored By - **A V Trophies**
Best Vintage Vehicle – Proudly Sponsored By - **Majestic Tanners**
Best American Muscle Car – Proudly Sponsored By - **Frits the Plumber**
Best Vehicle Interior - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Best Vehicle Exterior- Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Furthest Travelled Other Vehicle
Best Local Club Display – Proudly Sponsored By - **A V Trophies**
Best Non Local Club Display – Proudly Sponsored By - **Sunstate Panel Van Club - QLD**
Iron Person Comp Champ - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Rocker Cover Racers Champ - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Hotwheels Van Race Champ – Proudly Sponsored By - **Sundowners Van and Street Club - NSW**
Hotwheels Ute Race Champ - Proudly Sponsored By - **Sundowners Van and Street Club - NSW**
Kids Biz awards - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Judges Encouragement Awards - Proudly Sponsored By - Mark wells **Auto Group**

- Best Attended Club - Proudly Sponsored By – **Majestic Tanners**
- Musical Card Champion – Proudly Sponsored By – **A V Trophies**
- Pin the Wheel on the Van Champ - Proudly Sponsored By – **A V Trophies**

Best 70's theme Vehicle – Proudly Sponsored By - **Wenham Insulation**
Best 70's dressed Male – Proudly Sponsored By - **Wenham Insulation**
Best 70's dressed Female – Proudly Sponsored By - **Wenham Insulation**
Best 70's dressed Junior (Under 16) – Proudly Sponsored By - **Wenham Insulation**

Fastest wheel changing Male - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Fastest wheel changing Female - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Fastest wheel changing Junior (Under 16) - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Best Rolling Project - Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Best Stereo Sound off- Proudly Sponsored By - **Uteznvanz**
Hard Luck Award - Proudly Sponsored By – **Uteznvanz**
Best Non Attendance Excuse. – Uteznvanz

KAROONDA FARM FAIR **UTE COMPETITION – April 2014**

Perfect weather after a cool start set the scene for a great day at Karoonda farm fair. Like all country shows there was plenty to see with machinery displays, clothing and gift stalls and much more. Typical country demonstrations of farming skills like shearing and cooking were very interesting. With over 60 utes entering the muster competition was tight. However we were really chuffed when 3 Uteznvanz club vehicles there went home with multiple wins. Congratulations to you all for your effort in travelling to participate as well. Once again a lot of interest shown in the Van nationals with multiple flyers and entry forms being taken and one entry form also returned and lodged. The utes are starting to roll in now – we just need some wagons, wagons, wagons!!! It was great to have Ashley Holder from Majestic Tanners call in for a chat during the day too. No matter where we go there always seems to be an old friend or new acquaintance to make the day special. Another top Competition run for Uteznvanz members!



WANTED !!!!!

Old vehicles!

All shapes and sizes!!!

We have people asking if we know of any vehicles that may be suitable for either parts or restoration of all types.

If you have something like this in your shed or on your property please give us a call or send an email with a picture to

uteznvanz@live.com.au

Restoring one yourself!!!

Do you know we have a rolling project award at our Easter Event? How about bringing it along and showing people how some of these magic show vehicles were before someone cared enough to restore them.

**This one is coming!!!
Thanks to the entrant for allowing publication.**

WANTED



GUYS & GALS

with



UTES OR VANS

TO JOIN ONE OF AUSTRALIAS' FRIENDLIEST CLUBS

UTEZNVANZ™ INC.

WE ARE COMMUNITY MINDED & FAMILY ORIENTATED
THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING HAPPENING!

FOR MORE INFO. CALL THE CLUB ON

0431559636



OR VISIT: www.uteznvanz.com.au

FINE PRINT

you don't even need to own a ute or van you just need an interest in them



KIDZ BIZ!!!

Friday 1pm - 3pm Behind admin in the building.

Saturday - not yet confirmed. Will be advised.

Sunday 1pm - 3pm Same place.

Activities! Fun! Games!

Coloring Competition!

Trophies to be won!

Usual Kidz Biz Rules Apply



Eds Note

Hi all,

Well let me just say, at first I didn't think I could succeed and try and try I did, and here we are with a program that hopefully contains all the information you guys need to help guide you through the weekend.

I was rather nervous about compiling a program for a National Event, and at times, quite anxious about the whole thing really, but here we are Van Nats 2014.

I hope you enjoy reminicing whilst reading the stories that have been collected and remembering some of your own, maybe quite possibly even attending a Mildura Van Nats (Truck In) in the early days.

Don't forget to check out the latest edition of the UTEZNVANZ™ club mag “Tailgate” (as part of your goodie bag) as it is also filled with many memorable stories and pics that will make your mind wander into another dimension of time. Also, after this weekend, if you think you would like to share a memorable moment of the 39th Van Nats – Back to Grass Roots feel free to send your story and pictures to the UTEZNVANZ™ e-mail address and I'll try to fit it in the mag. The next issue is due for release in June.

Finally I'd like to wish you all the best over the next four days and that you all make memories you cant forget and memories that will draw you back to Mildura “Just 'Coz.”

On that note,
Happy Vanning, Wagoneering & Utiliting!!!

Libbie Francis
Editor

MILDURA SHOW GROUNDS
Dec. 28, 1976 to Jan. 1, 1977

1st national van in

DRIVE IN NIGHT
WINE TASTING
PADDLE STEAMER CRUISE
VAN SHOW
\$1,000 PRIZE MONEY
NEW YEAR EVE DANCE



DEC. 28th, MILDURA

1st National Van In
Box 99, Dandenong, Vic. 3175

Keep on
VAN

presented
by

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PROMOTIONS
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